

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Okinawa Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

November 1988

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

C/Ops

8 Dec

B J



2.

3.

C/E&PS

9 Dec

B

4.

DD/FBIS

9 Dec

B

5.

D/FBIS

12/12

B

6.

C/EIPS

12/12

B

7.

PO/RA

12/12

B

8.

SA/CD

13 Dec

B

9.

10.

C/AS

12/12

B

11.

C/PCRS

C/B&F/AS

12/12

B

12.

13.

14.

C/AG

12/12

B

15.

Exec. Reg.

Note the pilot.
Are these really
the friendly ships?
B

FBIS 5032-88
2 December 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
FROM: Chief, Okinawa Bureau
SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Okinawa Bureau - November 1988

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I. GENERAL

A. After 39 years of monitoring Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service from hellscreiber transmission, the Bureau lost coverage of the circuit when it ceased transmitting on 15 November. With no advance warning, this circuit simply failed to appear as scheduled. We have concluded that the circuit was part of XINHUA's upgrading of its "outdated short-wave facsimile system." In July, XINHUA announced that it would "start operating the country's first satellite broadcasting system with service available to domestic news organizations this year" (1988).

While avenues are being explored and action taken to restore this service, the Bureau has placed on coverage XINHUA's local broadcast news service which runs summaries of items rather than full texts. Hong Kong and Okinawa bureaus also proposed and Headquarters approved a redistribution of Chinese coverage whereby Hong Kong will be responsible for XINHUA materials in RENMIN RIBAO and more aggressively cover events from Hong Kong's PRC news agencies and Okinawa will assume coverage of LIAOWANG Overseas Edition, GUANGMING RIBAO and cover-to-cover translation of QUSHI.

B. FBIS Director Robert Manners visited the bureau 5-8 November. In his honor, a cocktail buffet attended by Lt. Gen. Shuji Otsuka of the Japanese Defense Forces, U.S. military officers and selected civilians was held 6 November. A barbecue lunch at the office and a Bureau party at the Bureau Chief's home were also organized. Mr. Manners paid a courtesy call on General Ralph T. Browning, CDR 313th Air Division, toured Bureau housing, met with Bureau staff and held a spirited meeting with the TCN's. The highlight of the visit was a helicopter tour of Okinawa island. (see attached photos)

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. After working without serious problems for a month, the new clipboard program for press agencies developed problems on 14 November. Whenever the editors went into the XINHUA Monday clipboard, the terminals locked. After much frustration, the corrective action of renaming the XINHUA Monday file appeared to be the solution. The problem has not recurred. Several requests for changes to improve the clipboard program have been submitted to ESG.

2. The Chinese Unit implemented several changes this month to enhance their productivity. These changes have allowed each monitor to spend more time on translation and less on non-publishable types of activity. Despite the loss of the productive XINHUA Domestic circuit, production for the unit was up as journals and newspapers replaced lost coverage. In fact the Unit registered about a 15 percent increase in translated wordage over the highest month so far this year.

3. The Bureau assumed coverage of Ulaanbaatar NOVOSTI MONGOLII in Russian, the newspaper of the Mongolian News Agency (MONTSAME), beginning with the 1 November issue.

B. Communications

Three times this month the Bureau had the opportunity to test the IDD system with Seoul Bureau during communication outages. Seoul sent live traffic consisting of 30, 14 and 11 messages for onward relay by Okinawa. The system worked well each time.

C. Cruising

1. Use of the new 7.5-meter antenna for Chinese television coverage has freed up the 10-meter antenna for checking the sole FDM/FM carrier on the STW-2 Chinese experimental communications satellite at 103.0E. Checks from 1030-1600 GMT confirmed some 58 additional Beijing International Service casts in various languages are being relayed via this satellite.

2. During the month the Cruising Unit completed checks on the fall/winter broadcast schedule changes for Radio Taipei's International Service and Taiwan's "Voice of Asia" and secondary changes for Radio Moscow's International Services and Radio Beijing's International Service.

D. Lateral Services

1. In response to a request from the U.S. Consulate in Shanghai, the Bureau translated a 4-take JIEFANG RIBAO article on the consulate's visa section.

2. Responding to a request from Analysis Group, the Bureau filed a report and commentary from ZHONGGUO DIANSHI BAO (Chinese Television News) on a controversial 6-part television series that had been broadcast by Chinese television this summer. The series had been videotaped at the bureau and two copies of the entire series were forwarded to headquarters.

E. Technical

1. Installation of the new 7.5-meter TVRO antenna and auxiliary equipment was completed on 3 November. The dish portion of the antenna is not as sturdy as we would like should a typhoon hit the island. The dish shakes even in a light wind although it is listed as being able to withstand 120 mph winds. The original LNB, amplifier and receiver for the antenna were insufficient to obtain adequate reception of the weaker signals off the 87.5E Chinasat. To correct the problem the bureau engineer replaced the LNB, the coax cable and the receiver. The system is now almost equal to the Roset antenna system. It is being used for Chinese coverage. ✓

2. The Skylink equipment installation in the Skylink room was completed this month. Following the installation of the steel platform on the roof on 14 and 15 November, the radome and satellite antenna were installed. By 23 November, the installation team was able to acquire, in the receive mode only, both the WESTPAC and INDO satellites with good results. The terminal was successfully characterized on 28 November and we expect to activate the classified circuit on 1 December.

3. A new outside telephone line was installed during the month. The lines run parallel from the new telephone terminal to four different locations, i.e., the cruising room for the adaptable fax processor, the commo room for IDD, the bureau engineer shop for modem testing and the Skylink room.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Junior editor [] arrived PCS on 28 November.

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2. Editor [] and newborn daughter departed PCS on 11 November. [] had been medevaced to the States earlier. Senior Editor [] and family

STAT
STAT
STAT

departed PCS on 19 November. TDY Editors [] and [] and families departed Okinawa on 27 and 28 November respectively upon successful completion of their training.

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3. Acting Japanese Supervisor [] became Japanese Unit Supervisor upon his promotion to FBN-11.

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4. Chinese shift supervisor [] was awarded a superior performance award by Mr. Manners.

STAT

5. On 4 November [] motorpool, was recognized for 35 years of service with US Forces Japan/FBIS in a special ceremony for MLC employees who had more than 25 years of USFJ service. The ceremony was attended by the Bureau Chief and Logs officer []

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B. Finance

The yen rate continued to drop during the month reaching a new low of 119 yen per U.S. \$1. In this year of tight budgets, the bureau is keeping a nervous eye on the rate. *

IV. VISITORS

To The Bureau:

Director of FBIS Robert Manners for talks, 5-8 November; a group of Marines from the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing Intelligence Section on 16 November for briefing and tour; and [] telecommunications officer, Tokyo Embassy for consultations 26 November - 3 December.

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From The Bureau:

Bureau Chief to the Marine Corps Birthday Ball on 10 November; Bureau Chief and Deputy to 376th Strategic Wing for briefing on 21 November; and Bureau Chief and Deputy to 6690th Electronic Security Group and office of DODSPECREP for briefings and tour on 23 November.

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1. Senior editor [] starred in the play "Ladies of the Garden Club" given by the Pacific Players. The play was part of a dinner theater presented at the Kadena Officers' Club.

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2. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED], participated in the first ever "Japanese-American Friendship Bowl". The game was played in the Okinawa City Sports Stadium. Playing outside linebacker for the Kadena High School allstar Panther football team, [REDACTED] scored the winning touchdown against the Ryukyu University Stingrays on a 30-yard fumble recovery.

STAT

[REDACTED] STAT

